

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration is requested.

Claims 4, 5, 11, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the acknowledged prior art in view of Buchler. Claims 6, 7, 13, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the acknowledged prior art in view of Buchler and Tobita.

Claims 4-7, and 11-14 have been canceled without disclaimer to the subject matter therein and without acquiescence to the rejections.

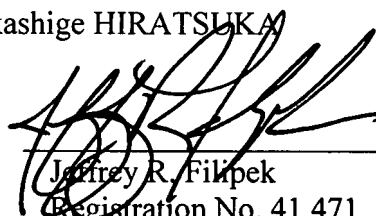
The remaining pending claims, i.e., claims 1, 2, 8, and 9 were indicated as allowed in the Office Action.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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